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**Agenda Item: 4B.ii**  
**Meeting Date: December 14, 2006**

## **BAY-DELTA PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

September 13, 2006  
650 Capitol Mall, Bay-Delta Room  
Sacramento, California

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS – INTRODUCTIONS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Vice Chair Denny Bungarz called the meeting of the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee (BDPAC) to order at 9:18 a.m. No quorum was established during any part of the meeting.

The following members were present: Patricia Acosta, Water Replenishment District of Southern California; Gary Bobker, The Bay Institute; Denny Bungarz, County of Glenn; Marcie Coglianese, City of Rio Vista; Gregory Gartrell, Contra Costa Water District; Steve Hall, Association of California Water Agencies; Steve Johnson, The Nature Conservancy; Steve Macaulay, California Urban Water Agencies; Robert Meacher, Plumas County Board of Supervisors; Jerry Meral, Planning and Conservation League; Tim Quinn, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Rudolph Rosen, Ducks Unlimited; Walter Wadlow, Santa Clara Valley Water District; and Thomas Zuckerman, Central Delta Water Agency.

#### **2. ADOPTION OF MAY 25, 2006 MEETING SUMMARY (Action Item)**

Because no quorum was established, no action was taken on the adoption of the May 25, 2006, meeting summary.

#### **3. SUBCOMMITTEE STRUCTURE (Action Item)**

Because no quorum was established, no action was taken on the restructuring of the BDPAC subcommittees. This item will be considered during the Joint BDPAC/California Bay-Delta Authority meeting scheduled for December 14, 2006.

Vice Chair Bungarz requested to move to Item 5, Science Update.

#### **5. SCIENCE UPDATE**

A number of items were discussed under this agenda item, including the Science Program Plan and priorities for Year 7, 2006 Environmental Water Account Review, 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial CALFED Science Conference, 2006 Focused Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP), and CALFED Science Fellows solicitation. There was also an update from the reconstituted Independent Science Board (ISB).

Ron Ott, CALFED Science Program Deputy Director, provided an update on Science Program priorities and noted that the Year 7 Program Plan is available for review on the CALFED website. Dr. Ott described some of the many activities on which the Science Program has been working, including: developing a report on the state of science for the Bay-Delta system; providing staff and resource support for the ISB; continuing the development of indicators and performance measures in collaboration with the CALFED implementing agencies; increasing efforts on information synthesis and communication of scientific understanding in the CALFED community through science conferences, panels, and journals; and supporting ongoing scientific research, projects and programs across the CALFED Program by identifying and providing technical expert advisors. Dr. Ott noted that the 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial CALFED Science Conference will be held October 23-25, 2006 at the Sacramento Convention Center. The theme is "Making Sense of Complexity: Science in a Changing Environment." Dr. Ott also said that the Science Program has issued its second open call for proposals as part of the 2006 Focused PSP. The Science Program received 35 proposals that addressed four priority topic areas: environmental water, aquatic invasive (exotic) species, trends and patterns of population and system response to a changing environment, and habitat availability and response to change. Funding recommendations are expected by December 2006.

Dr. Ott introduced Dr. Jeff Mount, ISB Chair, to provide an update on ISB activities. Dr. Mount provided a report from the meeting of the reconstituted ISB, which held its first meeting August 14-15, 2006. Dr. Mount said the ISB expressed concern about the lack of a lead scientist, but is making progress in the selection process and expects to have a recommendation within weeks. Dr. Mount reported on some items that the ISB considers critical, starting with the lack of performance measures and stating that you cannot manage the CALFED Program without them. The ISB will write a letter to the Authority explaining that without performance measures, all decisions are subjective, not objective – making it impossible to do strategic planning and adaptive management. The ISB feels it is a matter of priority setting, not necessarily a lack of resources, which prevents the implementing agencies from focusing on the development of performance measures. The ISB also strongly recommends scientific oversight for the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program. Additionally, it recommends that establishment of an independent science review panel for the Delta Risk Management Strategy, but not the National Research Council (NRC). The ISB suggests establishing an external panel to review the Phase 1 and Phase 2 work products. Marci Coglianese said she was unclear on how the ISB was constituted. Director Grindstaff said that Dr. Johnnie Moore, as Lead Scientist, had made the recommendation to the Authority. The Authority approved and action was taken at the June 15, 2006 Authority meeting. The question was asked why the NRC would not serve well as independent science review. Dr. Mount said he agreed that there is a need for fresh faces, but noted that the NRC is not the right vehicle, since it operates in a much less transparent way.

## **6. PERFORMANCE MEASURES: DISCUSSION OF PHASE 1 REPORT (Information Item)**

Lauren Hastings, Program Manager, CALFED Science Program, provided an overview on the approach the CALFED Program implementing agencies are using in the

development of indicators and performance measures to report on progress towards Program goals. Staff from the Authority and implementing agencies have prepared the Draft *Phase 1 Report: Core Indicators and Plan*. Following the overview, presentations were given from representatives for each of the four objectives: Ecosystem Restoration (Bart Prose, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), Levee System Integrity (Bill Burkhard, Department of Water Resources), Water Quality (Carolyn Yale, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), and Water Supply Reliability (Mark Cowin, Department of Water Resources). Each presenter provided an overview of the key issues and status of the performance measures efforts, challenges, and next steps. Discussion centered on frustrations that CALFED agencies are still behind in the development of performance measures. Tim Quinn noted that we are still in the conceptual stage. Greg Gartrell agreed with Mr. Quinn, asking why it is not possible to choose a few fundamental measures. Mr. Gartrell also asked the status on the Pelagic Organisms Decline (POD) contracts. Dr. Ott said that POD has prioritized projects and now has the attention of the directors of the CALFED agencies. Gary Bobker said that he appreciates that something is happening with respect to performance measures, but that it should have the same urgency and attention as the Delta Risk Management Strategy (DRMS) effort. Mr. Bobker said he urges the administration to bring this up in importance and give it the same level of commitment. Director Grindstaff said he agreed with what had been said, and that the issue was buried in the past but is being pulled forward. Marci Coglianese said that at every stage, this needs to integrate with DRMS and Delta Vision. Steve Hall said that Phase 1 is outcome-based, always leading to an agreed-upon set of outcomes. Director Grindstaff said that a very serious discussion has been taking place about agreeing on what the goals are. Mr. Quinn said he did not believe that we need complex indicators. Mr. Bobker said complexity does not necessarily mean the need for 100 indicators, but only that ones are carefully chosen that can properly measure a complex system. Director Grindstaff noted that the goal is for subcommittees to continue to discuss goals and the development of performance measures.

Director Grindstaff reported that the Friant settlement was announced today and distributed a handout. Vice Chair Bungarz adjourned the meeting for a break at 11:40 a.m. and resumed the meeting at 12 Noon, over a working lunch.

#### **4. PANEL DISCUSSION: INTEGRATION OF CALFED END OF STAGE 1, DELTA VISION, and the BAY-DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN (Information Item)**

Mike Wintemute, External Affairs, California Resources Agency; and Lester Snow, Director, Department of Water Resources, introduced the item by talking about current direction and future visions for the Bay-Delta system.

The panel was introduced and each panel member gave a short presentation. Cindy Darling, Resources Agency, provided a brief update on the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan. Rod Meade, CALFED Delta Vision Program Director, provided an update on the current activities and next steps with Delta Vision. Rick Breitenbach, Deputy Director, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, gave an update of current work on the End of Stage 1 decisions. Joe Grindstaff discussed the integration of these various efforts,

acknowledging the other related efforts, such as DRMS and Delta Regional Ecosystem Restoration Implementation Plan. He emphasized the importance of coordinating these various efforts and noted that it will be key to have shared science that is consistent and maintains independence. He said that he is not expecting to have consensus on everything as we move forward, but will continue to have discussion.

Wendy Halverson Martin, Chief Deputy Director, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, facilitated a discussion between the panel members and BDPAC members. Steve Macaulay asked if we continue to hold solution principles as our guide. Director Grindstaff responded that we may need to do things differently and that everybody may not get what they want. Mr. Quinn stated that the administration needs to come forward with some direction and answers, and BDPAC will provide input. Mr. Bobker said that CALFED promised all things for all people, but that was not possible. The new direction needs to ask about the policy choices and what kind of ecosystem, society, etc. do we want. Mr. Meade said we need to stay in touch and inform each other as we move forward.

Steve Hall asked about the Stage 1 report staff is working on and what the plan will say. He noted that a certain approach is outlined in the CALFED Programmatic Record of Decision (ROD) and would like to know what the draft will say about the ROD. Director Grindstaff said the ROD gives direction to look at the broad assumptions. The draft will look at issues and decide whether to continue or not. Discussion continued about the Delta Vision task force and how it will consider broader issues over the long-term, including transportation and land-use. Discussion then moved on to how to maximize everyone's time, while at the same time engaging stakeholder processes. Steve Johnson said it would be worthwhile to look into new technology (i.e., webcasts) or move meetings around to various regions. Marci Coglianese asked members to question who the stakeholders are. She felt there are many stakeholders in the Delta that do not know what CALFED is. She felt we need more targeted outreach to Delta local governments, landowners, and some level of participation for public above the fray, such as League of Women Voters. Also, we need to figure out how to capture the hearts and the minds of the public and that the Program's approach be durable enough to last through changing administrations.

## **7. PROGRAM PLANS (Action Item)**

Acting-Chair Denny Bungarz requested that Item 7 be moved to the December 14, 2006, meeting since no quorum was established.

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment was given.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Acting-Chair Bungarz announced the next meeting will be the Joint BDPAC/Authority meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 14. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.